

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 6th March 1886.

CONTENTS:

Page.

Page.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The Liberals and the annexation of Burmah	... 271
Lord Dufferin at Mandalay	... <i>ib.</i>
Government of Burmah according to martial law	... <i>ib.</i>
The annexation of Burmah	... <i>ib.</i>
The Burmese war	... <i>ib.</i>
The cost of the Burmese war	... 272
Burmah	... <i>ib.</i>
Burmah	... <i>ib.</i>
The Burmese war	... 273
Russia and Meshed	... <i>ib.</i>
Indians and the expenses of the Burmese war	... <i>ib.</i>
Atrocities committed by the English in Burmah	... 274
England and China	... <i>ib.</i>
The cost of the Burmese war	... <i>ib.</i>
Government of Burmah according to martial law	... <i>ib.</i>
Mr. Bernard	... <i>ib.</i>
English administration in Burmah	... <i>ib.</i>
The cost of the Burmese war	... <i>ib.</i>

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police—

The reform of the police	... 275
The police in Mangalganj	... <i>ib.</i>
Mr. Carnac of the Sylhet Police	... <i>ib.</i>

(b)—Working of the Courts—

The pension of Sir Richard Garth	... <i>ib.</i>
Appointments in the Calcutta High Court	... <i>ib.</i>
Service of summons by affixing it to houses	... <i>ib.</i>
The Deputy Magistrate and the Sub-Deputy Collector of Ghattal	... <i>ib.</i>
The Chief Justiceship of the Calcutta High Court	... 276
Sir Comer Petheram	... <i>ib.</i>
Messrs. Grant and Porter	... <i>ib.</i>
Sir Comer Petheram	... <i>ib.</i>
The Chief Justiceship of the High Court	... <i>ib.</i>
Revision of judgments of first class Magistrates by District Magistrates	... 277
Sir Comer Petheram	... <i>ib.</i>
The Munsiff of Cutwa	... <i>ib.</i>

(c)—Jails—

Nil.

(d)—Education—

Agricultural education	... <i>ib.</i>
Agricultural education in India	... 278
Selection of text-books for the Middle Vernacular Examination by Baboo Radhika Prasanna Mukherjea	... <i>ib.</i>

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—

The Berhampore Municipality	... <i>ib.</i>
The house-tax in Calcutta	... 279
The civilians of the Central Provinces and self-government	... <i>ib.</i>
Competitive examination in the offices of the Calcutta Municipality	... <i>ib.</i>
The Health Officership of Calcutta	... <i>ib.</i>
Moulvi Buzlul Karim, Deputy Magistrate of Ghattal	... <i>ib.</i>
Tramway complaints	... 280
The Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality	... <i>ib.</i>

(f)—Questions affecting the land—

The Road Cess Deputy Collector of Midnapore	... <i>ib.</i>
---	----------------

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation—

Grievances of railway passengers	... <i>ib.</i>
----------------------------------	----------------

(h)—General—

Sir Rivers Thompson	... <i>ib.</i>
The Committee to enquire about Indian affairs	... 281
Mr. Cotton and the Revenue Secretaryship under the Bengal Government	... <i>ib.</i>
Reduction of expenditure	... <i>ib.</i>
Sir Rivers Thompson in East Bengal	... <i>ib.</i>
Enquiry into the Indian administration	... 282

The future of India	... 282
Protest against the reception of the Lieutenant-Governor by the people of Dacca	... 283
Expenditure of Indian money on the Burmese war without the consent of Parliament	... <i>ib.</i>
Sir Rivers Thompson	... <i>ib.</i>
Lord Dufferin	... <i>ib.</i>
A Mussulman Judge in the Calcutta High Court	... <i>ib.</i>
The Retrenchment Committee	... 284
An Agricultural Exhibition at Noakhali	... <i>ib.</i>
The English and the natives	... <i>ib.</i>
Baboo Protap Chundra Ghosh	... <i>ib.</i>
England and Ireland	... <i>ib.</i>
Moulvi Bazlul Karim, Deputy Magistrate of Ghattal	... <i>ib.</i>
Mr. Cotton	... <i>ib.</i>
The Royal Commission of Enquiry into Indian affairs	... 285
Self-government	... <i>ib.</i>
The Lieutenant-Governor at Dacca	... <i>ib.</i>
Retrenchments	... 286
Sir Rivers Thompson at Dacca	... <i>ib.</i>
The Royal Commission of Enquiry	... <i>ib.</i>
The plea of misgovernment before the annexation of any State	... <i>ib.</i>
The Committee of Enquiry	... <i>ib.</i>
The Committee of Enquiry	... <i>ib.</i>
Receiving of bribes by English officers	... 287
The Retrenchment Committee	... <i>ib.</i>
The Indian finances	... <i>ib.</i>
Lord Dufferin at Mandalay	... <i>ib.</i>
The Lieutenant-Governor at Dacca	... 288
Reduction of expenditure	... <i>ib.</i>
Dismissal of Babu Grish Chunder Das, Government Pleader, Dacca	... 289
The Committee of Enquiry	... <i>ib.</i>
Mr. Grimley	... <i>ib.</i>
Oppression by the troops at Umballa	... <i>ib.</i>
The expenses of the Burmese war	... <i>ib.</i>
The Committee of Enquiry	... <i>ib.</i>
The English merchants and the expenses of the Burmese War	... 290
Lord Dufferin's administrative policy	... <i>ib.</i>
The Enquiry Commission	... <i>ib.</i>
The Retrenchment Committee	... <i>ib.</i>
The expenses of the Burmese war	... <i>ib.</i>
The cost of the Burmese war	... <i>ib.</i>
Laidman vs. Hearsey	... <i>ib.</i>
Lord Dufferin	... 291

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

The Chowkidari Bill	... <i>ib.</i>
The Indian Legislative Councils	... <i>ib.</i>
Two native Members of the Madras Council	... <i>ib.</i>
The Chowkidari Bill	... <i>ib.</i>
The Chowkidari Bill	... 292
The Chowkidari Bill	... 293
The Chowkidari Bill	... <i>ib.</i>
The Chowkidari Bill	... <i>ib.</i>
The Chowkidari Bill	... 294
The Viceregal Council	... <i>ib.</i>
The Chowkidari Bill	... 295
The Putwari Bill	... <i>ib.</i>
The Chowkidari Bill	... <i>ib.</i>
The Chowkidari Bill	... 296

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

Native Princes and Political Officers	... <i>ib.</i>
---------------------------------------	----------------

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Distress among the unemployed poor in London	... <i>ib.</i>
--	----------------

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Missionaries and the Countess of Dufferin's Fund	... 297
--	---------

URIA PAPERS.

The Village Watchman's Bill	... <i>ib.</i>
The Village Watchman's Bill	... <i>ib.</i>
The State Scholarships	... 298

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ...	.....
2	"Assam News"	Ditto ...	450	
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
3	"Ahammadi"	Tangail, Mymensingh..	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
4	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	800	
5	"Purva Darpan"	Ditto ...	700	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
6	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Calcutta ...	700	1st March 1886.
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	102	26th February 1886.
8	"Bangabási"	Ditto ...	20,000	27th ditto.
9	"Bháratbási"	Ditto ...	3,000	27th ditto.
10	"Bhárat Mihir"	Ditto ...	2,500	25th ditto.
11	"Bherí and Kushadaha"	Ditto ...	.....	26th ditto.
12	"Burdwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	302	2nd March 1886.
13	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	
14	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca ...	450	28th February 1886.
15	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	825	26th ditto.
16	"Grámvartá Prakáshiká"	Comercolly ...	500	
17	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	24th ditto.
18	"Kamalá"	Calcutta ...	.....
19	"Mussulman Bandhu"	Bhowanipore, Calcutta	.....
20	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore ...	508	24th ditto.
21	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....
22	"Nava Medini"	Midnapore ...	.....	27th ditto.
23	"Navavibhákar"	Calcutta ...	1,000	1st March 1886.
24	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	450	27th February 1886.
25	"Prajá Bandhu"	Chandernagore ...	995	
26	"Pratikár"	Berhampore ...	600	12th ditto.
27	"Purva Bangabási"	Noakholly ...	.....
28	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakiniá, Rungpore ...	205	25th ditto.
29	"Sádháraní"	Calcutta ...	812	28th ditto.
30	"Sahachar"	Ditto ...	500	24th ditto.
31	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	2,350	
32	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	27th ditto.
33	"Sáptálik"	Ditto ...	.....
34	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	400	27th ditto.
35	"Som Prakásh"	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	1,000	1st March 1886.
36	"Srimanta Saudagár"	Calcutta ...	.....
37	"Sudhápán"	Ditto ...	.....
38	"Sulabha Samáchár"	Ditto ...	3,000	
39	"Surabhi and Patáká"	Ditto ...	700	25th February 1886.
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik"	Calcutta ...	7,000	[1886. 28th February and 1st to 4th March
41	"Samvád Prabháhar"	Ditto ...	200	26th & 27th Feb. & 1st to 5th ditto.
42	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	24th to 27th do. & 1st to 4th ditto.
43	"Samachár Chandriká"	Ditto ...	625	25th & 27th do. & 1st to 3rd ditto.
44	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto ...	500	2nd March 1886.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
45	"Kshatriya Pratika"	Patna ...	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
46	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	.....
48	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	25th February 1886.
49	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	500	1st March 1886.
50	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	4,500	28th February 1886.
51	"Hindi Samáchár"	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Calcutta ...	250	26th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	196	
54	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar ...	150	
55	"Al Punch"	Bankipore ...	.....	26th ditto.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
56	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ...	340	27th February and 3rd March 1886.
<i>Daily.</i>				
57	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	212	[1886. 26th & 27th Feb. & 1st to 4th March
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
58	"Taraka"	Cuttack ...	.....
59	"Shikshabandhu"	Ditto ...	.....
60	"Pradip"	Ditto ...	.....	January 1886.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
61	"Utkal Dipiká"	Cuttack ...	200	20th February 1886.
62	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Balasore ...	205	18th ditto.
63	"Sebaka"	Cuttack ...	200	20th ditto.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Sahachar*, of the 24th February, says that its faith in the Liberals has been shaken by their support of the annexation of Burmah. When the annexation of Burmah was announced by the Conservatives in the Queen's speech, Lord

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 24th, 1886.

The Liberals and the annexation of Burmah.

Granville questioned the expediency of the step, and Mr. Gladstone distinctly condemned it. No new circumstance regarding the affairs of Burmah has been revealed since that time, and yet they now support the annexation. The real fact is that the foreign policy of both Liberals and Conservatives is the same.

2. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 25th February, says that while at Mandalay, Lord Dufferin told the Council of Burmese Ministers that the British Govern-

BHARAT MIHIR,
Feb. 25th, 1886.

Lord Dufferin at Mandalay.

ment would seek to promote the happiness and prosperity of all classes of the people, and that the administration of the country would, as far as possible, be conducted with the assistance of native officials and native agency. Lord Dufferin never shrinks from making promises, but his acts are opposed to his professions. After making that statement before the Ministers, the Viceroy abolished the Council and made arrangements for administering the country by means of civilians. In future natives will be appointed to posts in Burma just as natives are appointed to posts in India. The Burmese knew this before, and hence it is that they have expressed their unbounded joy at the auspicious advent of the English by committing "dacoities."

3. The *Surabhi* and *Patākā*, of the 25th February, referring to the fact that Burmah will be governed according to martial law till November, says that this means that the English will act just as they

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Feb. 25th, 1886.

Government of Burmah according to martial law.

please in Burmah till that time. When will the policy that dictates the oppression of a country unlawfully obtained be put an end to by God?

4. The same paper says that by the annexation of Burmah the carrying on of English trade will be facilitated not only in that country, but also in China and

SURABHI & PATAKA.

The annexation of Burma.

Thibet. Many Englishmen will also obtain employment in Burmah, but India will derive no benefit from the annexation of the country. Many persons say that if Burmah had not been annexed by the English Government, the French would have extended their dominion there, and the proximity of the French would have been a source of danger to India. The writer does not deny that the proximity of the French is a source of danger to India, but by the annexation of Burma that danger has increased rather than diminished. Now the Chinese, besides the French, have become the neighbours of India. Burmah will not be able to defray the cost of its administration; consequently India will have to bear that cost. The writer expected that the Liberals would not support the Burmese War, and that they would not at least saddle India with the whole of its expenses. The writer is sorry that the civilised English Government have proved the insincerity of their professions in the nineteenth century.

5. The *Bheri*, of the 26th February, says that Government has vouchsafed at last, after swallowing up the Burmese kingdom, to assign reasons why the

BHERI,
Feb. 26th, 1886.

The Burmese war.

Burmese war was undertaken. These reasons are what the people suspected them to be. It would be very alarming indeed if the independence of a nation were to be destroyed for reasons like these. There is no evidence that

Theebaw was guilty of those crimes of which he has been accused. Because there were some massacres in Burmah, Theebaw was declared an unworthy ruler. The dacoits from Upper Burmah commit depredations in British territories : therefore Theebaw is unfit to be a ruler. Then, again, it was thought proper to conquer Burmah without the sanction of Parliament, because Theebaw had made treaties with other Powers and because he had prevented some Englishmen from stealing coolies from his kingdom. Lord Dufferin should be ashamed of ruining a sovereign prince, and assigning such reasons for the step in broad daylight in the nineteenth century. Even if Theebaw be guilty of these offences, why should the English dethrone him ? Can they say on oath whether all those men who were hanged after the Sepoy mutiny were really rebels ? Were the little Princes of Delhi, who were shot in a public street, rebels ? Who presented their heads on a golden plate to their unhappy parents ? Was Theebaw more cruel than that Englishman ? Has the English historian recorded what punishment that cruel Englishman received ? The writer thinks that if the cruelties of Englishmen and those of Theebaw are compared, Theebaw will appear as a god. He cannot think that the explanation offered by the Government of India for undertaking the Burmese war is at all satisfactory.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

6. The *Sanjivani*, of the 27th February, says that the Burmese War was undertaken for the extension of British dominion and of British commerce. The

English had been for the past twenty years in search of a pretext to conquer the country, and such a pretext was offered by the attitude of the Burmese Government towards the Bombay and Burmah Trading Corporation. Even admitting the truth of the statement made by Mr. Gladstone that the war was undertaken for the protection of the life and property of the people of India sojourning in Burmah, has the Government made a list of these sojourners and of the oppressions practised on them by King Theebaw, that the cost of the war is being thrown on India ? When Lord Beaconsfield wanted to throw the cost of the Afghan war on the people of India, Mr. Gladstone opposed him. The people of India may have had some semblance of interest in the Afghan war, but they have none in the Burmese war ; but the great statesman has become so weak that he could not resist the demand of a section of his countrymen blinded with self-interest.

BANGABASI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

7. The *Bangabasi*, of the 27th February, says that the Viceroy has himself admitted that Burmah will not be pacified in a short time. He has made arrangements for the government of the country. Martial law will prevail in Burmah, and General Prendergast will remain the military ruler. Mr. Bernard has been appointed civil ruler in the place of Colonel Sladen.

The Liberal Government has thrown the cost of the Burmese war on India. This is wrong. There is a section of native politicians who become beside themselves with joy when the Liberals come to power. What will they say to this ? The writer is of opinion that Liberals and Conservatives are all alike in matters relating to India. The natives of India should not mix in the party politics of England.

SARASVAT PATRA,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

8. The *Sarasvat Patra*, of the 27th February, says that Burmah has nominally come under English rule, but anarchy is reigning supreme in that country. General Prendergast is to be thanked for the tact with which he has conquered the country, but the hope of pacification is still distant. When the English have annexed Burmah, the writer sincerely desires the pacification of the country, for unnecessary expenditure and bloodshed will never come to an end unless the confusion is all over. But the cruelties of Government officers are a bar to the establishment of peace. The boldness

of the dacoits, and the resoluteness with which they are sacrificing their lives have astonished the world.

9. The *Paridarshak*, of the 27th February, expected that Lord Dufferin would place a Burmese Prince on the throne of Burmah, but it has been disappointed.

The Burmese war.

Lord Dufferin has himself assumed the government of the country under the title of Governor. This is not well. The Under-Secretary of State for India has proposed to throw the cost of the Burmese war on India. Who can tell how much expenditure India will have to bear under the English Government? Is India to supply the deficit if Burmah cannot meet the cost of its own administration? The Blue Book on the subject of the Burmese war has been published. Of the several causes assigned for the war, Theebaw has himself denied his complicity in the first, viz. the massacres. In the Dhobi affair the English were not satisfied though the offenders were punished with ten stripes each. The Burmese soldier who had offended an English Captain was degraded. The dog-shooting affair is certainly not of such great magnitude as should lead to the dethronement of Theebaw. Theebaw certainly cannot be blamed because the English tried to steal coolies from his kingdom. He cannot also be blamed for making friendship with the French, and he was too weak to obstruct English trade.

PARIDARSHAK,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

10. The *Sádháraní*, of the 28th February, says that two reasons can be assigned for Russia's eagerness to occupy Meshed, namely, that it is necessary to occupy

Russia and Meshed.

it before Russia can occupy western Afghanistan, and that it will facilitate the invasion of India by making it possible to come to India over the sea from the Persian Gulf. If such be the case, probably a war will break out between Persia and Russia for the place, and England will probably support Persia. It is also said that a large number of Russian war ships are being built. The Russian Government is trying to have these ships afloat on the Black Sea in the course of six months. From all this it seems probable that Russia will measure her strength with England on the sea.

SADHARANI,
Feb. 28th, 1886.

11. The same paper says that it is foolish to enquire who will have to pay the expenses of the Burmese war. Those who have paid the expenses of the Afghan war and Egyptian war, and who are defraying the expenses incurred for the fortification of Herat will pay the expenses of the Burmese war. The 82 members of the House of Commons who voted against the saddling of India with the expenses of the war did so only to save the reputation of England. The writer does not, like others, wonder at the conduct of the Liberal Ministry in this matter. Liberals and Conservatives are all the same to India. The Conservatives alone should not be held responsible for the Burmese war. The war was supported by the Liberals also. But the Conservatives may be held responsible for the annexation of the country. Mr. Gladstone probably would not have annexed Burmah. The annexation of Burmah will prove beneficial to Englishmen. But what benefit will India derive from it? On the contrary, it will prove a source of inconvenience to India, as its annexation may lead to a war with China. Those who have faith in the Liberals should consider that it is that party that has saddled India with the whole of the expenses of the war. The expenses of the war are not large. The English merchants could have easily borne the cost. The treasure found in the Burmese treasury also would have covered the expenses of the war. The troops have not shown such heroism in the Burmese war as to deserve those treasures as prize-money.

SADHARANI.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 1st, 1886.

12. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 1st March, says that the English, who condemn cruelties in foreign countries, have themselves committed atrocities in Burmah. The English were guilty of their characteristic cruelty during the Sepoy Mutiny and the Afghan war. But the cruelties committed by them in Burmah are so inhuman as to make one disinclined to call them men. It has been published that they took photographs of the dying Burmans who were hanged.

SOM PRAKASH.

13. The same paper says that from the writings of the English papers, it appears that England will give Bhamo to China. England treats differently the weak and the strong.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 1st, 1886.

14. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 1st March, says that it is unjust to throw the cost of the Burmese war upon India. The war was not undertaken for the benefit of India, but for that of the English merchants. India is poor and cannot afford to pay this cost. But this act may ultimately do good to India by increasing the misery of her people, and either causing their death or leading them to adopt such measures as may prevent a repetition of similar acts on the part of Government.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 1st, 1886.

15. The *Navavibhákár*, of the 1st March, says that the hopes of those who thought that Lord Dufferin would restore the Burmese to their independence have been disappointed. The country will be governed for the present according to martial law. The dreadful nature of that system of government may be easily ascertained from observing the administration of the non-regulation provinces. The pleas urged for the annexation of Burmah are all false. The real object of the annexation of Burmah is to prevent French influence in it. The writer asks whether the prize-money of three lakhs, which the Viceroy says will be awarded to the sepoys who fought in Burmah, will be paid out of Indian money.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

16. The same paper is re-assured by the proposal to appoint Mr. Bernard as Chief Commissioner of Upper Burmah. The writer thought that Burmah would continue to be governed according to martial law by Colonel Sladen. General Prendergast will be appointed Commander-in-Chief of Burmah.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

17. The same paper, referring to the arrangements for the government of Burmah by English officers, says that the country will not be able to bear the expenses of the English system of administration. Mr. Bernard, who has tried to show that the revenues of Upper Burmah are large, has not been able to estimate it above a crore and five lakhs. This revenue will not cover even the military expenditure; consequently India will have to bear the cost of the administration of Burmah. Arrangements should be made for the administration of Burmah according to a less costly system.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
March 2nd, 1886.

18. The *Samvád Prabhákar*, of the 2nd March, says that when the commercial interest is concerned neither Liberals nor Conservatives can look to the interests of India. The throwing of the cost of the Burmese war on the people of India has not been a wise step. The war has only commenced. The deficit in the revenue of the new province will have to be supplied from the Indian Treasury. The writer therefore thinks that attempts should be made to form Burmah into a separate Government, distinct from that of India; otherwise the cost of the Burmese administration will gradually fall heavier and heavier on the people of India.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

19. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 24th February, says that a large number of well educated men should be appointed to the Police Department to make it popular. As the matter stands at present, the police is more dreaded by the good than by the wicked. There must be something at the bottom of this. Good men should be encouraged in the department.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
Feb. 24th, 1886.

20. A correspondent of the *Bheri*, of the 26th February, says that a case of theft occurred near Mangalganj. The man, whose paddy was stolen, informed the police of Gopalnagar about it, and he deposed that he suspected two persons. The Sub-Inspector did not come to enquire into the matter for three or four days. In the meanwhile the complainant and some other persons arrested one of the suspected persons and gave out that he was going away with the stolen property. This led to the gathering of a large number of persons on the spot, and a friend of the suspected gave some deposition before the police. The police officer came the next morning and began to hold an enquiry in all seeming earnestness. But at about 12 both the cases were dismissed. Both the parties were glad, and the officer was beside himself with joy. Such an amicable settlement would be worthy of all praise if only there was no corruption at the bottom. It is said that the officer has made a good bargain. The people are suffering greatly from the effects of floods. If they are treated in this ignoble way when they take refuge with the officers of Government, they are quite helpless. The writer hopes that local authorities will enquire into this matter.

BHERI,
Feb. 26th, 1886.

21. A correspondent of the *Paridarshak*, of the 27th February, complains that Mr. Carnac, the Superintendent of the Sylhet Police, did not allow the son of the proprietor of the lands near the Chhatak dispensary to pass on horse-back through the principal thoroughfare at Chhatak, because the young man did not *salaam* him. He insolently told the zemindar's son with his stick uplifted—"Do not pass through this road."

PARIDARSHAK,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

22. The *Surabhi* and *Patáká*, of the 25th February, referring to the proposal to give full pension to Sir Richard Garth, though he has not served the full term of his office, says that this is going to be done because Sir Richard Garth is an Englishman, and because the pension will be paid out of Indian revenues. It is strange that the English can boast that they govern India according to just principles, though they commit such acts.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Feb. 25th, 1886.

23. The *Bangabási*, of the 27th February, has an article on the appointment of some new Judges to the Calcutta High Court, the purport of which is similar to that noticed in paragraph 26.

BANGABASI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

24. The *Nava Medini*, of the 27th February, is glad to notice that Sir William Wedderburn, a Judge of the Bombay High Court, has done well by issuing a rule that the service of summonses by affixing them to houses should not be accepted as legal service.

NAVA MEDINI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

25. A correspondent of the same paper says that Hem Baboo, the Sub-Deputy Collector of Ghattal, has obtained the charge of the treasury. But Hem Baboo

NAVA MEDINI.

follows the Deputy Magistrate wherever he goes to the great inconvenience of the public. Last Thursday, though the Sub-Deputy left Ghattal for Ramjivanpore with the Deputy Magistrate in the evening, he did not do any treasury work on that day. The treasury has remained closed for the last ten days. The civil work of the sub-division is at a stand still for want of court-fees. People cannot get cash for money-orders. The post-master brought this matter to the notice of Hem Baboo, but he informed that officer that he could not go to Ghattal. Many Public Works officers are stopping at Ghattal on duty. They have not received their pay as yet. Poor chaprasis are greatly inconvenienced for want of payment.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

26. Though approving of the appointment of Sir Comer Petheram, who has the reputation of being a man of singular independence of mind, as the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, the *Sanjivani*, of the 27th February, cannot approve of the action of a diplomatic Government in allowing Sir Richard Garth to retire from the service before the completion of the pensionable term of his office, and in depriving Mr. Justice Romesh Chunder Mitra of the Officiating Chief Justiceship. The High Court lost much of its prestige under the Chief Justiceship of Sir Richard Garth. Sir Comer is likely to raise it in the estimation of the people.

A rumour was afloat some time ago that one or two native gentlemen would be appointed to act as Judges of the High Court in the absence of some of the Judges on leave. But three European gentlemen have been appointed and no native. The writer does not understand what claims Mr. Porter had to a Judgeship of the High Court, except the fact that he is unpopular with natives, in supersession of the superior claims of Messrs. Beveridge, Garrett, and Taylor.

BHARAT BASI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

27. The *Bhārat Rāsī*, of the 27th February, is glad to notice that Sir Comer Petheram will get Sir Richard Garth's place. This is very fortunate for the people of Bengal. He has displayed exceptional powers as a Judge at Allahabad. The hardships of the people of India will be mitigated to a great extent if the number of Judges like Sir Comer is increased.

BHARAT BASI.

28. The same paper says that Messrs. Grant and Porter have been appointed Judges of the High Court of Calcutta. There are only two Native Judges in the High Court at the present moment, and their number should be increased. Kisor Baboo and Syed Ameer Ali are able men, and they are quite willing to serve as Judges. But they get no appointment because they are natives. The appointment of these native gentlemen would have been very popular in Bengal.

SADHARANI,
Feb. 28th, 1886.

29. The *Sādhāranī*, of the 28th February, says that every Bengali is glad at the appointment of Sir Comer Petheram, who is a just Judge, as Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court. The people of the North-Western Provinces will be great losers if a just man like him is not appointed to succeed him in his present post.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 1st, 1886.

30. The *Som Prakāsh*, of the 1st March, says that Lord Dufferin has appointed Sir Comer Petheram as Chief Justice in order to deprive Baboo Romesh Chunder Mitter of the post. The writer does not know whether this arrangement is temporary or not. Had not all the people recommended Romesh Baboo for the post, Lord Dufferin would probably have appointed Romesh Baboo to the post. It appears that Government desires to act against the wishes of the people.

31. The same paper says that, though the ruling of the High Court that District Magistrates will be able to revise the judgments of first class Magistrates will increase the number of suits, it will probably prevent injustice.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 1st, 1886.

Revision of judgments of first class
Magistrates by District Magis-
trates.

32. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 1st March, is glad that Sir Comer Petheram, who is an able, just, and independent-spirited man, will be appointed Chief

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 1st, 1886.

Sir Comer Petheram.

Justice of the Calcutta High Court.

33. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 2nd March, says that Baboo Avinash Chandra Mukerji, the Munsif of Cutwa, puts the parties to suits before him to

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 2nd, 1886.

The Munsif of Cutwa.

great inconvenience by fixing the day for hearing of suits without any care; so that plaintiffs even in *ex-parte* suits for arrears of rent, have to come to court with their witnesses several times before their cases are taken up, and have often to spend more in this way than the value of their suits. The writer thinks that the munsif should fix the dates of hearing with some care. The Baboo is often blamed for striking off the file applications for the execution of decrees. The writer thinks that he cannot be blamed if the applications are struck off through the negligence of the decree-holder. But if the latter is watchful, the Baboo should not strike off his application. The Baboo should keep a careful watch over the proceedings of his amla entrusted with the work of the execution of decrees. The munsif Baboo is said to be in the habit of taking Rs. 3 for issuing notices of sale in rent suits. The writer is under the impression that fee for one service only should be charged, and not for three services. The District Judge should enquire into this matter, and should give the munsif proper advice. The writer does not think that the munsif is right in his interpretation of Acts and circulars in this matter. An unnecessary rule has recently been made of making an affidavit before the issue of the notice of sale. A fee of one rupee is taken by Government, and a searching fee for a search in the Registrar's office. The munsif Baboo takes a searching fee for searching the records for twelve years.

(d)—Education.

34. The *Bangabasi*, of the 27th February, says that 90 per cent. of the population of India is agricultural. But the country is losing fertility, while the population

BANGABASI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

Agricultural education.

is increasing. Under such circumstances famines are sure to happen, and poor agriculturists to die in numbers. Attempts should be made to prevent famines, to keep stores of grain for the time of scarcity, and to increase the productive powers of the land. But has Government ever made this attempt? Is the Agricultural Department established by Government doing anything to increase the productive power of the land, and to improve the mode of cultivation and of manuring? What is to be done in this matter? The cultivators should be taught improved methods of agriculture, encouraged to adopt them and convinced that the present methods are insufficient for the purpose. Reports and lectures are insufficient for the purpose. They should be given practical instruction. And who are to give such instruction? Science and literature are taught in Government colleges, but technical education is neglected. Students belonging to the agricultural classes are taught in villages. They are taught the life of such men as Duval, but nothing by which they can earn their livelihood. The geography of Nova Zembla is taught, but they do not know in what month brinjals flourish. The writer thinks that to make education useful technical education should be given in schools, colleges, and pathshalas. The Education Commission recommended the introduction of technical education,

but Government has done nothing in that direction. Agriculture should be taught in pathshalas and agricultural science in schools and colleges. The passed students of the Cirencester College should be entrusted with the task of educating people in agriculture. They should be allowed to prepare text-books. Without this, the scheme of giving agricultural education will be a failure. Government should adopt this proposal. The population of Prussia, Denmark, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands is only seven crores, and two crores of rupees are spent in these countries for the agricultural education of the people, while the Government of India does nothing for 19 crores of men entrusted to its care.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

35. The *Sanjivani*, of the 27th February, says that in Akbar's time the average produce of a bigha of land was fixed at about 11 maunds of

Agricultural education in India. paddy or nine maunds of wheat or one maund of cotton. But at the present moment the average has dwindled into 7 maunds of paddy, 5 maunds of wheat, and 9 seers of cotton. Such is the enormous fall in the average produce of the fields in India. Under such circumstances, India cannot prosper without agricultural improvements, and Government is not earnest in its efforts in this behalf. It has established only one college in Madras. The college has done something for Bombay and Madras, but nothing for Bengal, though the majority of its districts are agricultural. Sir George Campbell's attempt at the establishment of model farms failed for three reasons, namely, (1) the uneducated native agriculturists were unwilling to adopt improved methods of agriculture; (2) there were no men at the time who could encourage the introduction of improvements; (3) the attempt was made on a very large scale of expenditure, for which there was no money. To improve agriculture, agricultural instruction should form a part of mass education. Agriculture and the rearing of animals should be included in the curriculum of studies in the pathshalas and middle class schools. Much again may be expected if Government undertakes to improve the fields of ryots under the supervision of educated agriculturists, as it once did in Balasore and Cuttack. The few Bengali agricultural scholars who have returned from Cirencester are doing nothing. If an attempt is made for the diffusion of agricultural education under the supervision of these men, it is not likely to be unsuccessful, and if in this matter the Education Department acts in concert with the Agricultural Department, the attempt will not cost much. The agricultural scholars who have returned are almost all officers in the Subordinate Education Service and placed in the 5th grade. If they are appointed as assistant inspectors in the 3rd grade and given the usual travelling allowance, the work of supervising agricultural education can be very well done.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 1st, 1886.

36. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 1st March, praises Baboo Radhika Prasanna Mukherjea, Officiating Inspector of Schools, Presidency Circle, for selecting the text-books for the middle vernacular scholarship examination in consultation with several experienced examiners and several experienced teachers selected from different districts. Formerly owing to the want of such an arrangement proper text-books were not selected, and thus Government's object in introducing the examination was not completely attained.

Selection of text-books for the Middle Vernacular Examination, by Baboo Radhika Prasanna Mukherjea.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

PRATIKAR,
Feb. 12th, 1886.

37. The *Pratikar*, of the 12th February, says that the health of the people of Berhampore has improved considerably in the course of a year. Roads, ghâts, and latrines are properly cleansed. This is the reason why the health has im-

The Berhampore Municipality.

proved. The writer gives compliment to Baboo Baikuntha Nath Barat, the Chairman of the Municipality, for the success of his administration. The overseer, Baboo Kaliprasanna Mookherji, and his subordinates, are doing their work with energy.

38. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 24th February, is afraid that in the next municipal budget there will be an enhancement of all the municipal rates

The house-tax in Calcutta.

in Calcutta. But such an enhancement will press very hard upon the rate-payers, who are ill-able to pay the rates already assessed upon them. Considering the high prices of articles all round, people do not now-a-days get enough to eat. And if they have to pay more municipal taxes, they will simply break down. If they cannot, moreover, get enough to eat, what will they do with improved sanitation?

SMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
Feb. 24th, 1886.

The civilians of the Central Pro-
vinces and self-government.

39. The *Surabhi* and *Patáká*, of the 25th February, says that Mr. Fraser, an officer who served for a long time in the Central Provinces, has written in an article contributed to the *Fortnightly Review* that the civilians who opposed the introduction of self-government there two years ago on the ground that the people had not become fit for self-government, have now perceived their mistake. The civilians of Bengal, however, are as hostile to the system of self-government as formerly. When will they perceive their error?

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Feb. 25th, 1886.

Competitive examination in the
offices of the Calcutta Municipality.

40. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 26th February, is glad that the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality have introduced a system of competitive examination for the appointment of clerks in their offices.

BHARAT BASI,
Feb. 26th, 1886.

The Health Officership of Calcutta.

41. The same paper says that the appointment of a stranger to the Health Officership of Calcutta by the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality will do a great injury to the cause of science in this country. That cause would have greatly benefited by the appointment of one of the two native candidates.

BHARAT BASI.

Moulvie Buzlul Karim, Deputy
Magistrate of Ghattal.

42. The *Nava Medini*, of the 27th February, says that two parties were formed at Khirpai at the time of the last year's *gazan*. Baboo Haradhan Bhattacharya, the Vice-Chairman of the local municipality, and a friend of Moulvie Buzlul Karim, was the leader of one of the parties. After the *gazan* procession had proceeded a little way, a panic suddenly seized the bearers that the other party was upon them, and they fled in confusion. On a careful enquiry the writer has come to learn that the other party did not come at all. But Haradhan Baboo, though aware of the real state of things, caused cases to be brought against some of the men of the opposite party on a charge of rioting, and against others for abetting the riot. The charge of rioting was tried first, and the Deputy Magistrate fined them each one hundred rupees, but on appeal one was acquitted and two others fined thirty rupees each. In the meanwhile attempt was made by the Commissioners to remove the Vice-Chairman on account of his unpopularity with the majority of ratepayers. Just at this time the trial of those accused of abetting the riot was taken up. The accused tried to get the case transferred from the file of the Deputy Magistrate. When the application for transfer was made, the Magistrate remarked that, when those guilty of rioting had been punished with fines to the amount of Rs. 30 only, higher punishment could not be inflicted on the abettors. But the Moulvie sentenced them to 15 days' imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 50 each. An appeal was preferred before the Judge who released

NAVA MEDINI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

the accused on bail. Just at this time the police applied to the Deputy Magistrate for taking bonds of personal recognizance from the accused lest they should disturb the peace. The writer has learnt from a confidential source that those gentlemen never attempted to break the peace. One of them is the Secretary of the local school, and two the Commissioners of the local municipality. The Judge has on appeal remitted the imprisonment, but retained the fine, and ordered the taking of the bond of recognizance. Criminal cases depend on the evidence of two or four witnesses, and the Judge could not believe that the accused were not concerned in the riot.

BHARAT BASI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

43. The *Bhārat Bāsi*, of the 27th February, says that the attention of the tramway authorities has been repeatedly drawn by the Vernacular Press to their

Tramway complaints.

mismanagement, but in vain. These authorities have made no arrangements to remove the inconveniences of passengers and particularly to start cars at regular intervals. The cars on the Wellesley Street line alone are started regularly because that quarter is inhabited by Europeans.

SAMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
March 4th, 1886.

44. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 4th March, hears a rumour that Mr. Beames will be appointed to act as

The Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality.

Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality during the absence on leave of Mr. Harrison. The temper of Mr. Beames is well known. He is not likely to pull well with the Commissioners. Mr. Beames may be a good man, but he is not a man for Bengal. Government alone knows why it has selected him for the post.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

NAVA MEDINI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

45. The *Nava Medinī*, of the 27th February, says that the zemindars of Midnapore have been greatly harassed since the imposition of the Cesses. They are becoming poorer and poorer. They find it

The Road Cess Deputy Collector of Midnapore.

difficult to pay the land revenue. It is much more difficult for them therefore to punctually pay their cesses. They often suffer greatly for want of punctuality. Unfortunately for them the Road Cess Deputy Collector is a very hardhearted man. He often puts up properties to auction rather unjustly. The sale of Baikunth Nath Jana's properties the other day shocked the feelings of the people of the locality, and the matter was brought to the notice of the press and of the Government. But the Deputy Collector did not come to his senses. He put up the other day the property of Huri Narain Rai for sale. Hari Baboo's agent offered money, but as his application was not ready, the property was sold off. The Deputy Collector could not wait. The writer is sorry that both these zemindars had to compound with the auction purchasers.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 1st, 1886.

46. Tee *Som Prakāsh*, of the 1st March, says that in Russia a book is kept at every railway station,

Grievances of railway passengers.

in order that passengers may record in it their grievances. But in India not only are no such books kept, but also no heed is paid to the complaints made by passengers. Sometimes the authorities themselves oppress the passengers.

(h)—General.

PRATIKAR,
Feb. 12th, 1886.

47. The *Pratikār*, of the 12th February, is very glad to hear from the *Sārasvat Patra* that Sir Rivers Thompson has,

Sir Rivers Thompson.

by his courteousness, pleased the people of East Bengal on the occasion of his recent visit to that part of the country. It is a

matter of congratulation that the conduct of the ruler of a province should be pleasing to the people. Sir Rivers complains that the native press unjustly abuses him, but it does not really do so. It simply advises him to try to please his subjects. But the writer is sorry to read in the *Dainik* that the Junior Government Pleader of Dacca has been summarily dismissed for taking part in a meeting of the ratepayers of Dacca to protest against the expenditure of municipal money for the reception of Sir Rivers Thompson.

48. The *Sahachar*, of the 24th February, says that an enquiry should be made as to the manner in which India has been administered since the assumption of the direct government of the country by the Queen in 1858. Lord Randolph Churchill is deserving of thanks for proposing the appointment of a Commission for such an enquiry. The prospect of the appointment of such a Commission was also held out in the Queen's speech. The writer is now sorry to learn that there will be no Commission, but a Committee. All the Committees that have yet been appointed have held their sittings in England. For that reason no great good has come of them. The writer apprehends that the Committee in question too will hold its sittings in England. Unless the Committee makes enquiries in India and takes evidence, no good will be done by it. All classes in the country desire that a branch of the Committee should come to India.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 24th, 1886

49. The same paper, referring to the appointment of Mr. Nolan as Revenue Secretary to the Bengal Government instead of Mr. Cotton, who occupies a higher post than Mr. Nolan, and about whose ability there can be no question, says that people think that Mr. Cotton has been deprived of the post, because he loves natives, and because he is in favour of a liberal system of government. It is a matter of regret that the stains on Sir Rivers Thompson's character are becoming deeper and deeper.

SAHACHAR.

50. The *Murshidabad Patriká*, of the 24th February, says that an annual saving of 30 to 35 lakhs of rupees can be effected if the Viceroy and the Provincial Governors cease to reside in the hills. Since the Secretary of State for India is the real ruler of India a great saving can also be effected by the appointment of an Assistant Secretary in the place of the highly paid Viceroy of India. But the English Government will not cease to suck the lifeblood of India by injuring any Englishman in the least. This is the cause of the poverty of India.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,
Feb. 24th, 1886.

51. The *Bhárat Mihir*, of the 25th February, says that the Lieutenant-Governor has returned to Calcutta from his visit to Eastern Bengal. The people of Bengal will not, for a long time to come, forget this visit. It is true that, thanks to the liberality of the wealthy men of Dacca and Mymensingh, there were no pains spared to provide good cheer for His Honour, but the masses did not show the least enthusiasm at his visit or make any preparations for his reception. Why would the people of Mymensingh show respect to His Honour? He is at every step showing hostility to Bengalis, and has, besides, forfeited the respect of the people of Mymensingh by denying them the benefit of Self-Government. He has introduced into Bengal a mutilated form of Local Self-Government, and nobody knows what more he would have done had he had the power. Why should people respect such a worthy? ruler? The Commissioners of the Dacca Municipality made great preparations to accord a fitting

BHARAT MIHIR.
Feb. 25th, 1886.

reception to the Lieutenant-Governor. Nobody would have had anything to say to this had the cost of the preparations been met by the Commissioners from their own pockets instead of from the limited funds of the municipality. Their action in this matter was very improper, and a public meeting was called at Dacca, at the instance of Baboo Girish Chandra Das, the Junior Government Pleader, and others, to protest against it. Only two hours after the meeting broke up, the Baboo was dismissed from the service of Government. It is needless to point out the injustice of this proceeding. The Baboo, it is said, has been removed from Government service for his disloyalty, but there was no trace of disloyalty in the notice convening the public meeting, or in the resolutions adopted at it. It would be of course a different matter if the liberty of the people to spend their money in the way they thought best were seditious. It is difficult to see how the Lieutenant-Governor could so shamelessly approve of the dismissal of Girish Baboo. Had Sir Rivers been a man of independent and honest views, it would have been his duty for the sake of his reputation to prevent such acts taking place even without his knowledge. But he is of a different disposition, and has, in this matter, acted in his usual way. The people of Bengal do not see anything to wonder at in this. Sir Rivers, it would seem, wants to be popular with Bengalis by acts like these. Baboo Girish Chandra Das has earned the gratitude of the public by his courage and independence of mind.

BHARAT MIHIR,
Feb. 25th, 1886.

52. The same paper says that it is gratifying to learn that the British Government has decided upon appointing a Committee of both Houses of Parliament to enquire into the administration of India. It is needless to observe that the English officials under the Indian Government and their friends in England will try their best to throw dust into the eyes of the Committee, because, if the Committee should, after learning the true facts concerning the administration of this country, seek to change the present system of government, the undue ascendancy and the privileges of the European officials, would be curtailed. These men can, to a very large extent, influence the members of the House of Commons, but they cannot influence the Lords, and hence the news of the appointment of a Committee of both Houses has caused great satisfaction. It is now the duty of the people of this country to see that the labours of the Committee prove beneficial. Men who were at any time connected directly or indirectly with the administration of India should not be allowed to sit on the Committee, and it is necessary that a branch of the Committee should be sent to this country to take evidence. Efforts should be made from this time to secure this object.

BHARAT MIHIR.

53. The same paper says that one of the cardinal principles of English policy is to relieve the people of India of the task of self-defence, to keep them down, and to maintain intact the privileges of Englishmen. The English Government does not trust the people of India. The recent increase of the army by the addition to it of ten thousand English troops at this time of financial difficulty and distress among the people furnishes proof of this fact. Still there would have been no objection to this course if natives of India had been unfit for military service or unable to defend their country, or if the Sikhs and the Mahrattas had lost their military instinct. Even if an increase of the army were necessary, Government could safely increase the number of its native troops at a cheap cost. But its faith in the superior military skill of English soldiers prevented it from taking that step. What, again, is the good of maintaining a reserve force in England at the cost of India, if their services cannot be obtained on an occasion of emer-

gency ? It is English policy, it would seem, to maintain this force in England, while the people of India are ground down by means of fresh taxes. Distrust of natives is at the root of English policy. What the British Government desires is that the military instinct of the people of India may not grow strong, and that they may lose the habit of self-reliance. But it cannot always give effect to this desire in all matters. The Editor is not aware whether the adoption of such a policy towards a vanquished people has ever been attended with success. The progress of India is closely connected with the welfare of England. What the Editor fears is lest this distrust should bring some overwhelming disaster upon England, and again close to fallen India the path of progress.

54. The *Surabhi* and *Patáká*, of the 25th February, says that the

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Feb. 25th, 1886.

Protest against the reception of the
Lieutenant-Governor by the people of
Dacca.

inhabitants of Dacca have entitled themselves to the thanks of the country by protesting against the reception of the Lieutenant-

Governor by the Local Municipal Commissioners. Baboo Girish Chunder Das, Junior Government Pleader of Dacca, who was one of the requisitionists of the meeting, has been dismissed from the Government service for that reason. The writer greatly praises Baboo Girish Chunder for his independence of spirit.

55. The same paper says that by spending Indian money upon the

Expenditure of Indian money on the
Burmese war without the consent of
Parliament.

Burmese war without the consent of Parliament, Lord Dufferin has violated the provision of the Parliamentary Act of 1858 for the

better government of India to the effect that the consent of Parliament is necessary for the expenditure of Indian revenues beyond the Indian frontiers except for "repelling or preventing actual invasion of India, or under sudden or urgent necessity."

SURABHI & PATAKA.

56. The *Bheri*, of the 26th February, says that instances are not

BHERI,
Feb. 26th, 1886.

Sir Rivers Thompson.

wanting to show that Sir Rivers Thompson has become very unpopular. There was some-

thing unpleasant when he went to Balasore. He went to Gobaridanga in a completely private manner. There was some hitch because he was invited to the India Club. Recently he went to Mymensingh and to Dacca, but he was not well received by the people. In Mymensingh Government officers, Municipal Commissioners, and police chowkidars alone joined to give him a reception. The rate-payers of Dacca called a meeting and protested against the action of the Municipal Commissioners of that place in giving him a reception at the cost of the municipal fund. The Junior Government Pleader of Dacca has been summarily dismissed from Government service for being present at the meeting of the rate-payers. The writer cannot believe that Sir Rivers himself has dismissed the man. But why did he not enquire into the matter that a poor man has been dismissed by one of his subordinates ?

57. The same paper advises Lord Dufferin to govern the people in a sympathetic spirit. The people will then

Lord Dufferin.

worship him as they did Lord Ripon. If he

systematically rejects the petitions of natives, the consequences of pleasing Anglo-Indians only might prove disastrous. Gagging the Native Press will not serve his purpose. Who shall be able to repress the feeling of 270 millions of men ?

BHERI.

58. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 26th February, says that there are now

A Mussulman Judge in the Calcutta
High Court.

many Mussulmans who are fit to serve as Judges of the High Court. There is Mr. Amir

Ali in Calcutta, Syud Mahmud in Allahabad, and Mr. Badaruddin Taiyebji in Bombay. Government admits the fact of its injustice towards Mussulmans when it is pointed out to them. But it does not take steps to remedy the injustice. Government should atone for its past injustice to Mussulmans by appointing a Mussulman Judge to the Calcutta High Court.

URDU GUIDE,
Feb. 26th, 1886.

ARYA DARPAN,
Feb. 26th, 1886.

59. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 26th February, says that the people of India are sure that the Retrenchment Committee will be a failure. A request has been made to the Secretary of State for India, asking him to send men from England to sit on this Committee. Will he comply with the request?

ARYA DARPAN.

60. The same paper is glad to notice that Mr. Waller, the Magistrate of Noakbali, has earned the gratitude of the people by holding an agricultural exhibition at the head-quarters of his district.

BHARAT BASI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

61. The *Bhārat Bāsi*, of the 27th February, says that the number of able men among the natives is increasing daily, and that if they are employed under Government, a third of the salaries attached to their posts can be easily saved. The natives have discharged with credit all the duties of all the few high offices entrusted to them. The Anglo-Indian papers, afraid of native competition, have commenced to discredit them. The statement made by the *Pioneer* that English officers dare not misappropriate public money or receive bribes lest they should lose their employment, is a production of the Editor's own imagination. An impression is gaining ground in this country that the English officers are more corrupt than native officers. Corruption prevails in a greater degree in those railway stations which are presided over by English station-masters. Mr. Blaney, of the Agra goods station, used to receive Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 a month from the merchants. When detected, he fled away, but the merchants who used to bribe him were punished. The corruption prevailing in the Public Works and Commissariat Departments is well known. The subordinate officers get only an eighth or sixteenth of the unlawful gain. The fact that Magistrates draw travelling allowances when they go out on hunting excursions is notorious. They often draw travelling allowances in a very unfair way. They are very ready to take illegal gratifications. The writer has heard that in the account books of a Rani, Rs. 1,00,000 was entered as the remuneration of a European Judge.

BHARAT BASI

62. The same paper says that Baboo Protap Chundra Ghosh, the Registrar of Assurances, Calcutta, is an educated gentleman belonging to a very high family. The writer does not expect that his bearing to those who go to him on business every day should be ungentlemanly. But his bearing towards them is very imperious. His temper is very harsh. He should try to soften the harshness of his temper.

BHARAT BASI.

63. The same paper thinks that Irishmen will obtain a large measure of freedom this time. The writer is of opinion that it is very difficult for any one to get any privilege from the English. When even Ireland, though so near, has been suffering so greatly for so long a time at the hands of her English rulers and English landlords, it is difficult to say when the hardships of India will be removed. But India can expect to have her grievances removed after the removal of those of Ireland.

BHARAT BASI.

64. The same paper thinks that Moulvie Buzlul Karim should be removed from Ghattal, as he has become very unpopular in that sub-division. This is evidenced by the fact that he does not bring a case for defamation against the Editor of the *Nava Medini*, who is writing so much against him.

BHARAT BASI.

65. The same paper says that those high-minded Englishmen who will befriend the natives will lose their prospects. Mr. Cotton has not been given the Revenue Secretaryship. The post has been given to Mr. Nolan, who is a favourite of Sir Rivers Thompson.

66. The same paper hears that the Royal Commission of Enquiry into the affairs of India will be composed of members from both the Houses of Parliament. Will men like Sir Richard Temple and Sir Roper Lethbridge be appointed members? If such men have any chance of being appointed, it is better that no Commission were appointed at all. They will do more harm than good to India. Care should be taken to see that the Commission does real good to the people of India.

BHARAT BASI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

67. The *Sanjivani*, of the 27th February, says that all Anglo-Indians from the Lieutenant-Governor downwards are trying their best to stifle self-government in its infancy. Government officers are doing their best to raise obstacles in the way of the registration of the names of fit men in the list of voters for Local Boards. At one place in Howrah they have refused to enter the names of those who hold appointments in Calcutta, and cannot therefore visit their villages for more than two days in the week. This excludes all intelligent men from the list of voters, while unworthy men only are being included in it. Government is doing its best to ensure the failure of self-government, and it will say a few years hence that the people are not yet capable of self-government. The ruler to whom complaints of the people are to be submitted is himself an enemy of self-government. Attempt should be made to punish the enemies of self-government by exposing their machinations before Parliament.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

68. The same paper says that the Dacca Municipality made unprecedently grand preparations for the reception of Sir Rivers Thompson. What is the reason of this? Why did a poor municipality, which cannot complete its drainage scheme, and cannot make better arrangements for lighting the town for want of funds, go to great expense for the reception of the Lieutenant-Governor? The reason is simply this—Formerly on the occasion of such gubernatorial visits the public used to make arrangements for the reception. But this time it was plain to the local authorities that the people would do nothing for the reception of Sir Rivers Thompson, and so they ordered the municipality to decorate the town. The Dacca people were not cowards. They called a meeting on the day after the day of the Lieutenant-Governor's reception. About three thousand men were present. Baboo Umaprasad Viswas was voted to the chair. The meeting protested against the wasteful expenditure of the municipality. This is as it should be. Government wastes the money belonging to the people in the Pindi Durbar and such like things, and never listens to the protests made by the people. But if the Municipal Commissioners, who are elected by the people, waste the money belonging to the people, they cannot help protesting against such expenditure. Baboo Girish Chandra Das proposed Baboo Umaprasad Viswas as president. For this crime, and for the crime of signing the requisition of the meeting, the thin-skinned civilians of the place dismissed the Baboo from the Junior Government Pleadership in the course of two hours of the holding of the meeting. When people have no respect for a man, they will not spend anything for his reception. Why does the civilian trouble himself about it? The reason for dismissing the Baboo is apparent to all. Still the Baboo should ask the Magistrate to furnish him with a written statement of the reasons for his dismissal. During the Ilbert Bill agitation even the Judges of the High Court did not hesitate to take part in the meeting held at the Town Hall. But they were not punished for their rebellious spirit. Why is the thin-skinned civilian so incensed because the Dacca people told some unpleasant truths in connection with the reception of the Lieutenant-Governor?

SANJIVANI.

URDU GUIDE,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

69. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 27th February, condemns the Government's method of effecting retrenchments which consists in dismissing native officers drawing small salaries. Instead of doing so, Government should put a stop to unnecessary expenditure and appoint natives on smaller salaries to posts now held by Englishmen.

BANGABASI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

70. The *Bangabási*, of the 27th February, says that the people of Dacca could not bear the idea that the Municipality of Dacca should spend any part of the municipal fund collected by sucking the lifeblood of the poor in according a hearty reception to Sir Rivers Thompson, who is an unpopular governor, and who has always shown a spirit of hostility towards the natives. They called a meeting at the East Bengal Theatre to consider the propriety of this action taken by the Municipality in the matter of the reception of Sir Rivers, and many other municipal questions. Baboo Girish Chandra Das, Junior Government Pleader, was present at the meeting. He proposed the president of the meeting, but it does not appear whether he did anything else. It does not also appear whether the acts of Sir Rivers were criticized or not. But Girish Baboo has been dismissed from the Government pleadership by the Magistrate of Dacca, it is said, at the instance of Mr. Secretary Peacock. People expected that while at Dacca, Sir Rivers would enquire into the wrong done by Mr. Rampini, but instead of that his favourite Secretary has done another wrong action.

BANGABASI.

71. The same paper says that a Commission is going to be appointed to enquire into the working of the India Act, 1858, but at the same time the Burmese war is being carried on by infringing one of the provisions of that Act. This attempt to uphold the Act on the one hand, and to violate its provisions on the other, shows that the Commission will simply make a report, but that it will not be able to do anything for the good of India.

BANGABASI.

The plea of misgovernment before the annexation of any State.

72. The same paper says that the English have always raised a cry of misgovernment before the annexation of any State since the battle of Plassey. Though the King of Oudh was popular with his subjects, and though his State enjoyed prosperity, they raised a cry of misgovernment against him and annexed it. The Punjab was highly prosperous. But the English raised a cry that the minor Dhulleep Singh was incapable of conducting the government of the country and annexed it. They have raised a cry of misgovernment against the ruler of Cashmere, because it is considered to be a Paradise on earth. They raised a cry of misgovernment against the ruler of Upper Burmah, and annexed it because it afforded extensive facilities to British commerce. How long are the English to continue to act in this manner?

SARASVAT PATRA,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

73. The *Sárasvat Patra*, of the 27th February, says that, after a long time, a proposal has been made in Parliament for holding an enquiry into the affairs of India. It will be a matter of congratulation if the proposal is carried out. The people of India should be careful to see that the enquiry elicits truth. The Act of 1858 has increased military expenditure to a great extent. It has made Legislative Councils merely the recorders of the decrees of the Executive. The relation between the Government of India and the India Council has become a ludicrous farce. The time has come for an enquiry into all these matters.

SADHARANI,
Feb. 28th, 1886.

The Committee of Enquiry.

74. The *Sádháraní*, of the 28th February, says that no good will be done by the Committee of Enquiry if good men are not appointed as its members

From the presence of Lord Ripon in the cabinet, it may be hoped that good men will be appointed as members of the Committee. No good will be done by the Committee if it holds its sittings in England. If the Committee sits in England only Indian officials, whose work will be enquired into, will give evidence before it. The few non-official Anglo-Indians who will be examined will speak in favour of their official countrymen.

75. The same paper, referring to the *Pioneer's* statement that natives are morally inferior to Englishmen, and that they can, without fear of detection, accept bribes from their native brethren, while Englishmen cannot do so without running the risk of detection, says that these statements are false. Natives are not so much skilled in taking bribes as Englishmen. A native officer cannot accept bribes, for, if he is found guilty of even the most trifling offence, he may be dismissed. But English officers are always supported by their English superiors. Does the *Pioneer* know that men cannot obtain clerkships in some Government offices without bribing their English heads? Why are Government buildings in most cases cracked before their completion when Government supplies good materials, and when there are Engineers on large salaries to superintend their construction? How is it that there is so much friendship between the Engineers and the contractors?

SADHARANI,
Feb. 28th, 1886.

76. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 28th February, says that the people unanimously condemn the constitution of the Retrenchment Committee, composed, as it is, of officials only. The Committee will fail to achieve the desired result. Does Government think that Englishmen, who have come from a great distance for money, will sacrifice their own interests in any way? If not, why has the work of retrenchment been entrusted to Government officers? If the Government is desirous of retrenchment, it should first of all try to reduce the remuneration of the highly-paid officers. The scale of pay of the English officers in India is unprecedentedly high. The officers in Ceylon and in the Straits Settlements get one-third the pay of Indian officers. This Committee will share the fate of other similar Committees. Government does not seem to be really anxious for retrenchment.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Feb. 28th, 1886.

77. The same paper says that India will have to bear the cost of any war undertaken by the English in any part of the world. The people will be sorry to hear that, instead of reducing military expenditure, the Secretary of State has ordered an increase of the army at a cost of two crores of rupees, no matter whether they can bear the burden or not. Famines have become very frequent. But the Home charges must be paid, no matter if the people of India die of hunger. India is a conquered country. England is the conqueror. India should do her best to increase the comforts of the people of England, but England would never think of the happiness or misery of India.

DACCA PRAKASH.

78. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 1st March, says that the gift of eloquence which exercises so great an ascendancy over English society is possessed by Lord Dufferin in an unprecedentedly large measure. He is a wonderfully eloquent man. But the people of India, who are struggling hard to earn a livelihood, who always remain in dread of the police and of the Magistrate and who become almost dead with fear at a meeting of the Legislative Council, have no leisure to listen to or appreciate Lord Dufferin's eloquence. In every speech of His Lordship they anxiously look for any indication of his views regarding the condition of this country. That Lord Dufferin has, in his speech, evinced great sympathy for the Burmese

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 1st, 1886.

is no cause of surprise to the people of this country. Whenever the British Government has deprived the people of this country of some right, introduced some rigorous law, or imposed some oppressive impost, it has invariably expressed sympathy for them. It was, therefore, to be expected that the Viceroy would express sympathy for the Burmese after sending an army into their country. The Editor is glad to hear that His Excellency has granted a reward of three lakhs of rupees to the British soldiers now in Burmah. He would have been more glad if the amount of the reward had been increased to twenty lakhs, and a tax had been imposed on the people of India to raise the sum. Lord Dufferin need not have referred to Theebaw's cruelties in his speech, because it has become almost axiomatic since European nations became powerful that the weak rulers of States, which it may be found desirable to annex, are always given to oppression.

ANANDA SAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 1st, 1886.

79. The same paper says that by protesting against the action of the Local Municipal Commissioners in voting an address to Sir Rivers Thompson, the inhabitants of Dacca have earned the commendation of the public, done a service to both India and England, and taught the people of this country what the meaning of true loyalty is. The dismissal of Baboo Girish Chandra Das, the Junior Government Pleader of Dacca, from the public service, has not caused him the least anxiety or fear.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 1st, 1886.

80. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 1st March, says that Mr. Justice Cunningham, who has been appointed member of the Financial Committee, knows well that the

Reduction of expenditure.

income of the courts is very large. He is also well acquainted with the writings of the Administrator-General, Mr. Broughton, on the subject. The expenditure on account of the courts is not adequate. Because the salaries of the amlah are low, the parties to suits have to suffer many inconveniences. Unless the salaries of those officers are increased good men will not be obtained as amlah. The establishment of the five proposed Appellate Courts will require additional expenditure. The number of munsifs will have to be increased when the Tenancy Act comes into force. The expenditure of the courts should be increased, but by no means diminished. The expenditure on jails has been diminished by 87 lakhs by deducting that amount from the expenditure on building work, but this expenditure cannot be reduced permanently. The jails are indispensably necessary for the maintenance of the peace. The expenditure on jails should not be reduced. If the expenditure is reduced the prisoners will have to die of starvation. Government has experienced the evils of the reduction of jail expenditure. The police expenditure should be increased. The Lieutenant-Governor has himself admitted that the number of police officers is not sufficient, and that the police expenditure is not capable of reduction. The writer finds fault with the reduction of police expenditure by abolishing the allowances for the dress of the policemen. Sir Rivers Thompson has himself admitted in the debate on the Chowkidari Bill that an improvement is not taking place in the condition of the Bengal Police solely on account of want of money. Until the salaries of the police officers are increased, educated gentlemen will not enter the police. The salaries of the lower police officers should be increased. The educational expenditure of Bengal is not sufficient. The reduction of the educational expenditure has cast a stain on the character of the English Government. While in Australia the Government spends on an average Rs. 7 per head on education in India the Government spends only one anna. Yet both these countries are under British rule. The educational expenditure of Bengal should be increased. The condition of the teachers and sub-

inspectors of schools should be improved. The expenditure may be reduced by appointing native professors and native inspectors of schools on smaller salaries in place of Englishmen. The expenditure on hospitals should be increased. The salaries of Assistant Surgeons should be increased. The salaries of Deputy Magistrates and Munsiffs and other officers have been increased; why should not the salaries of the Assistant Surgeons be increased also? The writer complains that natives are not appointed as captains and mates in the many ships belonging to Government. Small savings have been effected by depriving some petty officers connected with cinchona cultivation of their bread. Small savings have also been effected by reducing the salaries of the officers connected with agricultural exhibitions. The proposed veterinary school cannot be established for want of funds. The writer thinks that the money which has been deducted from the expenditure should be again added to it. The Finance Committee will not venture to propose retrenchments in those directions in which reduction of expenditure will not be attended with any inconveniences to the people.

81. The same paper, referring to the dismissal of Babu Girish Chunder Das, Junior Government Pleader of Dacca, says that if Grish Babu has been dismissed for joining the movement against the reception of the Lieutenant-Governor by the local Municipality, Sir Rivers Thompson will have earned another monument. Government officers, it is true, cannot join political movements, but they are not forbidden to do their duties as municipal rate-payers.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 1st, 1886.

82. The same paper says, that it would like to see Conservatives like Lord Iddesleigh and Randolph Churchill and Mr. Stanhope, and Liberals like Lords Northbrook and Derby Hartington, the Parliamentary Committee which will be appointed to enquire into Indian affairs. Arrangements should be made for the coming of a Sub-Committee of the Committee to India. It is not easy for Indians to go to England to give evidence. The British Indian Association has expressed the feeling of the whole country by praying for the coming of a Sub-Committee to India.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

83. The same paper approves of the appointment of Mr. Grimley, who is a good man among Civilians, as the chief officer in connection with the income-tax.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

84. The *Som Prakash*, of the 1st March, says that the troops collected at Umballa for the purpose of review committed great oppression upon the people in the locality. In fact all the oppression that follows a conquest was committed. The men who supplied the troops with provisions have not yet been paid. The labourers who laboriously cleared the maidan have not been paid a single pice for their extra labour. It is also said that the troops let loose their horses in the corn-fields.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 1st, 1886.

The same paper says that the question why India should be made to bear the expenses of the Burmese war was not raised in an earnest spirit in Parliament. Whenever a wrong act is contemplated, a mock discussion takes place. But such hypocrisy opens the eyes even of the ignorant.

SOM PRAKASH.

85. The same paper says that an agitation should be set on foot for the coming of a part of the Committee of Enquiry to India for the purpose of taking evidence, and seeing the manner in which India is being administered with their own eyes. Indians should make the Committee acquainted with the matters which ought to be enquired into, and should see that it is not misled by their enemies.

SOM PRAKASH.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
March 1st, 1886.

86. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 1st March, says that since the Burmese war was undertaken at the instance of the English merchants, justice requires that they should bear the expenses of the war. But as they have a control over the Indian finances, they will not pay money from their own pockets.

SAR SUDHANIDHI.

87. The same paper says that Lord Dufferin's administrative policy is not suited to India. Lord Ripon's policy was suited to the country. The imposition of the income-tax by Lord Dufferin has caused dissatisfaction. The dissatisfaction will increase considerably when the tax begins to be collected. Great caution should be exercised in collecting the tax.

SAR SUDHANIDHI.

88. The same paper says that the Commission of Enquiry should take the evidence of all classes of people in all the Presidencies of India. Unless this is done no good will come of it.

URDU GUIDE,
March 1st, 1886.

89. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 1st March, says that the Retrenchment Committee should see whether the work of the Governors of Madras and Bombay are heavier than that of the Lieutenant-Governors of the other Presidencies. If their work is not heavier, why should they obtain larger salaries than the Lieutenant-Governors? The number of Secretaries under different Governors varies from one to three. Cannot one Secretary do in all the Presidencies? Cannot also the salaries of the Secretaries be made uniform? The Committee should also see whether men cannot be obtained on lower salaries for the posts now held by Englishmen.

URDU GUIDE,
March 2nd, 1886.

90. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 2nd March, cannot understand why India should bear the expenses of the Burmese war, when the war was undertaken under orders from England. Again, when Englishmen derive greater profit than Indians from India, why should they not bear a portion of the expenses of the war?

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 2nd, 1886.

91. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 2nd March, says that the Liberals, immediately on their accession to power, have declared the Burmese war to be a just undertaking, and have thrown the cost of the war on India. The cost has been estimated at 30 to 40 lakhs of rupees. This has astonished the writer. Every one tries to throw the burden of expense on others, and in this case India is perfectly helpless. It is foolish on the part of natives to comment on this, though they do not know why they have been thus fined. India finds it difficult to guard the north-western frontiers, and it has been called upon to pay a fine of 30 lakhs of rupees. The writer does not object to the extension of the British Empire; but what have the people of India done to be obliged to pay a fine for the crimes of Theebaw?

DAINIK,
March 3rd, 1886.

92. The *Dainik*, of the 3rd March, is glad to hear that the Viceroy has called for the papers in the case of Laidman vs. Hearsey. Formerly when Viceroys used to call for papers of cases like these, people naturally expected that something would be done. But they entertain no such expectation now-a-days. The Viceroy is surrounded by civilians, and so he is not in a position to do justice in a case in which a civilian is concerned. But in this case there is a conflict of authority between the Government and the High Court of the North-Western Provinces. The Viceroy may therefore do justice in a case like this. He may not be led astray by the civilians round about him. Captain Hearsey, on the other hand, wants to bring a case of defamation against Sir Alfred Lyall.

93. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 5th March, says that Lord Dufferin has been found out. He speaks honied words and does nothing. Whenever any section of the Indian community has memorialised him for anything, he has replied in sweet words, but he never takes their petitions into his consideration. He is a diplomatist indeed, but not a good ruler.

Lord Dufferin.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
March 5th, 1886.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

94. The *Prátikar*, of the 12th February, says that Government is going to ruin self-government by the proposed amendment of the Chowkidari Act. It is indirectly taking away the little self-government power still left in the hands of the punchayets. Instead of removing the inconveniences caused by the Chowkidari Act, Government is taking away the power of the people. Instead of saving the punchayets from the hands of the police and encouraging good men to become punchayets, it is putting obstacles in the way of good men accepting the office. Bad punchayets will, in league with the police, oppress the people. Government thinks that the appointment of tehsildars will facilitate the work, but instead of that these low-paid tehsildars will only try to increase their income by illicit gain.

The Chowkidari Bill.

PRATIKAR,
Feb. 12th, 1886.

95. The *Sahachar*, of the 24th February, says that the number and influence of the official members in the Indian Legislative Councils are far greater than those of the non-official members. The British Indian Association has proved the want of influence of the non-official members by a reference to the Tenancy Act. The writer refers to the Income-tax Act as a proof of the fact. None of the recommendations made either by Mr. Mandlik or by Baboo Peary Mohun Mookerjee regarding the Income-tax Bill was accepted. Native members are being insulted every day in this manner. The recommendations made by Baboo Ananda Mohun Bose and Baboo Joyprakash Lal regarding the Chowkidari Bill are not being accepted. This state of things will not disappear so long as the constitution of the Legislative Councils is not changed. Satisfactory administration is impossible unless natives have the power of legislation. There are difficulties in Ireland, because the Irish have not the power of legislation. A great defect in the English character is that Englishmen do not learn anything without actually experiencing difficulties. They have come to their senses after experiencing difficulties in Ireland. They should see that they have not to experience similar difficulties elsewhere.

The Indian Legislative Councils.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 24th, 1886.

96. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 25th February, says that the term of membership of Mir Humayunja and the Maharajah of Vizianagram, of the Madras Council, will this time expire for the third time. The chief merit of these gentlemen is that they always support the Governor. For this merit Mr. Grant Duff is going to appoint them again as members. The writer hopes that the people of Madras will strongly protest against their re-appointment.

Two native Members of the Madras Council.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Feb. 25th, 1886.

97. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 25th February, says that Sir Rivers Thompson is a great enemy of self-government. He cannot bear to see the people of Bengal enjoy even the smallest amount of power. Of this he has given proof not once or twice, but a hundred, nay a thousand times over. What he desires is that all power in the administration of the country should remain exclusively in the hands of Government officials. Lord Ripon tried his best to introduce self-government into this country, but thanks to Sir Rivers Thompson His Lordship's efforts in that behalf have not been

The Chowkidari Bill.

BHARAT MIHIR,
Feb. 25th, 1886.

particularly successful in Bengal. Sir Rivers is trying to abolish every thing which is calculated to promote self-government. With this object he has introduced the Chowkidari Bill. Oppression by the police is almost a daily occurrence in the mofussil. It is difficult to conceive the dreadful condition to which the villagers will be reduced if the chowkidars are placed in complete subordination to the police. The chowkidar regards the punchayet as his master, and this has become intolerable to Sir Rivers Thompson. Consequently provision has been made in the Bill for the appointment of the chowkidar by the Magistrate, and for his dismissal and punishment by the police. Regarding this arrangement it will be enough to say that if the Bill becomes law it will be difficult to obtain men in the villages for the post of chowkidar. As it is, the post has few attractions. The chowkidar, though he is not technically subject to the authority of the police, is practically completely so. The village watchman is almost always soundly thrashed by the police officers, and has to work as a menial servant in the house of the police inspector. Such is at the present moment the lot of the chowkidar, and it is easy to see that that lot will be made harder when he is made completely subject to the police. It is not wholly true that the chowkidars are not regularly paid by the punchayets. Even if it were, the blame would attach to the police and not to the punchayets. The chowkidars have to be always busy in keeping the police officers in good humour, and have very little time to collect the tax from the villagers. This leads to much irregularity in the collection of the chowkidari tax. Let Government place the chowkidars in complete subordination to the punchayets, and it will see that there will be greater regularity in the collection of the chowkidari tax and in the payment of the salaries of the chowkidars. But that does not seem to be the object aimed at by Government. What it chiefly desires is to obstruct the work of self-government. Government will not see whether or not the proposed changes will cause inconvenience to the public. If it had considered that aspect of the question, it would have never proposed to increase the chowkidari tax at this time. The appointment of tehsildars would lead to an increase of the tax, and of oppression attending its collection. It is really surprising that Government does not understand this simple matter. The appointment of circle sardars would be productive of extortion and oppression. The provisions of the new Chowkidari Bill, if given effect to, will cause great injury to the villagers.

BHARAT BASI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

98. The *Bhārat Bāsi*, of the 27th February, says that the partial failure of the punchayet system is due to the fact that Magistrates do not as a rule take care in

the selection of punchayets. There is a provision in the law that punchayets should be selected by Magistrates in consultation with the villagers. But are they ever consulted? The punchayets are virtually selected by the police. Gentlemen do not like to become punchayets because they are ill-treated by both the police officers and the Magistrates. When a police officer or a Magistrate comes to a village, the punchayet must be present with him day and night, and make arrangements for his dinner on pain of being scolded severely. The mover of the Bill has thrown the entire blame of the failure on the head of natives. How can people be guilty when the Magistrate does not perform his duty? Who is responsible for selecting unworthy men as punchayets? The power of the police over the punchayets is increasing because the Magistrates do not act according to law. Perhaps the mover of the Bill is not ready to admit this. In the Bill there is provision that the nomination of chowkidars will rest with punchayets, but not their appointment or dismissal. The power of nomination will be of no avail. It will only bring reproach on the punchayet if a bad

chowkidar is selected. Unless the power of appointment and dismissal of chowkidars be given to punchayets, the chowkidars will not obey them. Unless the punchayet checks the chowkidar, there will be no peace in the villages, and it would be difficult to punish bad characters in a village without the help of the villagers. If the chowkidar is made subordinate to the police, he will be a man of the police, and will neglect his duty. Under the present system the chowkidar has to go to the police simply to make his reports. But the police officers make him, within that short time, do much menial work and pay something to boot. Good men do not like to become chowkidars for this reason. When such is the case under a system in which the chowkidar is not a subordinate of the police, it can well be imagined what the case will be if he is made subordinate to it. He will have to collect money for the police from the villagers, and the villagers will have to submit to such contributions without a murmur. The chowkidars will have to bribe the police, and the incidence of the bribery tax will fall heavily on the villager. The writer thinks that the appointment of tehsildars and circle sirdars is unnecessary, and that their appointment will make the life of villagers miserable.

99. The *Sanjivani*, of the 27th February, says that the British Indian Association has protested against the passing of the Chowkidari Bill. The other Political

The Chowkidari Bill.

Associations of Calcutta have followed suit. Mr. A. M. Bose has protested against it in the Council. Memorials have been sent to Government protesting against the passing of it from villages. Government should at this stage withdraw the Bill and try to make the position of punchayets more honourable.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

100. The *Sarasvat Patra*, of the 27th February, says that at present the chowkidar is a servant of the villagers. If he neglects his duty the punchayet can dismiss

The Chowkidari Bill.

him and appoint another in his place. He respects and fears the villagers. He cannot neglect his duties on the one hand, and cannot interfere with the duties of others on the other. He does not interfere in those petty crimes which the villagers think fit to hush up, and which bring about oppression if made known to the authorities. This state of things is productive both of peace and harmony between chowkidars and villagers. But if the proposed amendment becomes law, the chowkidar will not be anxious to buy the good will of the villagers. He will become a subordinate of the police and become a police constable, who will watch the villagers with an eye to his own pecuniary interests. Necessarily or unnecessarily he will interfere in the affairs of the village and make the villages appear like prisons to the people.

SARASVAT PATRA,
Feb. 27th, 1886.

Government is inspired by a very good motive in this matter. It is a fact that the punchayets do not like to collect taxes, and it also cannot be denied that many punchayets do not cheerfully perform their duties, and that many abuse their powers. But the villagers are not responsible if the punchayets are not always honest. They do not select their punchayets. Government appoints them, and it is a matter of great regret that good men are not as a rule appointed. The Magistrate never goes to the village for the appointment of punchayets. He throws the charge of appointing them on the police, which knows bad men better than good men. This is the reason why good men are not as a rule appointed. It would be better if, instead of trying to reduce the powers of the punchayets, Government made better arrangements for their appointment.

101. The *Sadharani*, of the 28th February, says that it is difficult to understand the ways of Sir Rivers Thompson.

The Chowkidari Bill.

While he is making pleasant speeches in the mofussil to become popular, he is eager to deprive the people of the last

SADHARANI,
Feb. 28th, 1886.

remnant of their power. Sir Rivers Thompson is desirous of obtaining addresses from the people on the eve of his departure, but he cannot leave his old civilian habits. For this reason, while he has introduced the Chowkidari Bill, he is saying sweet words to eminent Bengalis in the town and in the mofussil. The inhabitants of the town will not be affected by the Chowkidari Bill. It is the people of the mofussil that will suffer from it. The writer's chief objection to the Chowkidari Bill is its spirit, which is hostile to the principle of self-government. Lord Ripon relieved municipalities of police charges, probably on the ground that it was unjust that the rate-payers should maintain the police, which is subject to Government. Sir Rivers Thompson is following a policy which is quite the reverse of this. He is going to make villagers pay the salaries of the chowkidars, who will be subordinate to Government officers. The oppressions of the police are due to the fact that the people have no control over the police. In places where the chowkidari system still exists the chowkidars do not commit oppression. It will be very strange if the Lieutenant-Governor thinks, after his long stay in the province, that the efficiency of the chowkidars in the matter of detection of crimes will improve if they are placed under the authority of Magistrates. It has been ingeniously provided in the Bill that though the punchayets will not appoint chowkidars, they will be entrusted with the invidious task of assessing rates. Punchayets will assess taxes, but Government officers will collect the taxes. Who will consent to become a punchayet when he will have no power, and when he will have to do the invidious work of assessing rates? If the Chowkidari Bill is passed into law, the punchayet system, which is like the seed of self-government, will be totally abolished. The writer has no hope that even the united prayers of the whole province will have any weight with Sir Rivers Thompson's Government.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 1st, 1886.

102. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 1st March, says that if the Chowkidari Bill is passed into law it will be reckoned as another condemnable act of Sir Rivers

Thompson. Sir Rivers Thompson and his officials are narrow-hearted. They were very much pained when the system of self-government was introduced by Lord Ripon. They are now eager to lay the axe at the root of that system under a Viceroy of congenial spirit. Men do not consent to serve as punchayets because punchayets are subject to the police. Though Government knows the true cause of people's reluctance to serve as punchayets, Government is making the evil greater instead of remedying it. The Lieutenant-Governor would not understand that the more the punchayets are freed from the control of the police, the more satisfactory will be their work. The charge of the arrears of pay of chowkidars is an old one. When Government has been obliged to admit that that state of things no longer exists, the preferring of the charge only proves Government's hostility to punchayets. It is the police officers who suffer criminals to escape by accepting bribes, and they find fault with the punchayets merely to conceal their own guilt. When the punchayets are themselves subject to the police, it cannot be said that the subjection of the chowkidars to them has diminished the power of the police. Punchayets possess the power of appointing and dismissing chowkidars only in name.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 1st, 1886.

103. The *Navavibhákár*, of the 1st March, says that the Viceregal Council, like the Legislative Councils of Australia and of Ceylon, possessed the power of discussing about the finances of the country and about the acts of the Local Governments and officials. But the Council was deprived of this power by Lord Canning. There can be no doubt that this measure was very injurious. The only good done by Lord Canning in this matter is the appointment of

The Viceregal Council.

natives as members of the Council. The appointment of ordinary members was not a new measure. In 1853 provision was made for the appointment of provincial members who acted as ordinary members. At present the Legislative Council has only the power of helping the Executive Government in framing laws. But under the arrangements which existed before Lord Canning, it served as a check upon the despotism of the Executive Government. Now the Governors are the despotic rulers of the country.

104. The same paper says that every Association is protesting against the Chowkidari Bill. The Bill should be withdrawn and amendments indicated by the

The Chowkidari Bill.

writer in former issues of the paper should be made in one or two sections of the existing Act.

105. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 1st March, says that just as Sir Ashley Eden, who had received many

The Putwari Bill.

benefits from the zemindars, injured them greatly by initiating the new Rent Law and imposing the Public Works Cess, so Sir Rivers Thompson, who is making himself merry with the zemindar's money, is introducing such Bills into the Legislative Council as are calculated to injure them greatly. Most of the sections of the Bengal Tenancy Act which are likely to cause injury to the zemindars were inserted therein at the instance of Sir Rivers. But not content with having injured them by means of the Tenancy Act, he is now trying to get the Canooongoes and Putwari Bill passed into law. The editor admits that there has been an improvement in the condition of the tenant, but this result is not due to the Rent Law. Under British rule there has been great improvement of the internal trade of the country, and this has improved the condition of the agricultural tenant. This improvement would have been more marked had not Government appeared on the scene to dispense even-handed justice between landlords and tenants. Government says that the tenants will benefit by the proposed Putwari Law. But when it comes into operation, they will have to pay a cess of two pice in the rupee. Government believes that the payment of the cess and the labours of putwaries and canoongoes to be appointed under the law will contribute to their peace and happiness. When passing the Tenancy Act, Government declared that it would benefit both zemindars and tenants, and particularly the latter. But during the few months that the Act has been in operation, both zemindars and tenants have been made extremely uneasy. By passing Act X of 1859, Government created disputes between landlords and tenants which, after ruining the people for twenty-five years, were partially subsiding, when the Bengal Tenancy Act has again stirred them up. The Putwari Law will only add fuel to the fire, which will ruin the whole country. It is needless to say that henceforth the ryots will respect the canoongoes more than they do the zemindars, and that the zemindars will cease to love and favour their ryots. This will greatly injure the ryots. The zemindars also will in many cases be able by means of bribes to get the low-paid patwaries to prepare such accounts as they are desired to do, and this will greatly injure the people.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 1st, 1886.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 1st, 1886.

106. The same paper says that the form in which the Chwkidari Bill is about to be passed into law will be productive of considerable oppression. It is difficult to believe that Government does not see this. It behoves the rulers to consider whether it is proper to thus subject millions of people in Bengal to this oppression. It is not clear why Government is about to change the existing chowkidari law. Of course, if it has decided upon creating a body of village police at the cost of the villagers, the protests of the public against the Bill will go unheeded. But what crimes have the natives committed

The Chowkidari Bill.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

that they should be thus punished by Government? Government itself admits that the number of crimes is gradually diminishing in Bengal. It will do a great injustice and disturb the peace of the inhabitants if it now appoints a police constable to every village. Good men do not care to accept the post of chowkidar. It is only the wicked and unscrupulous section of the villagers from whom the chowkidars are recruited. These chowkidars on small pay, when they are vested with increased powers under the proposed law, will, it is almost certain, commit oppression, and the villagers will be compelled to bribe them, so that the proposed law will not only be productive of oppression, but will also demoralise the villagers. The chowkidars, again, will have often to act as spies, and they will thus find an opportunity of taking bribes and concealing many crimes. The editor suggests that the chowkidars should be placed in subordination to the members of the Union Committees, and these Committees entrusted with the duty of the punchayets. If this arrangement were made, the chowkidars would get their salaries more regularly and be compelled to pay greater attention to their duties. The suggestion is one which was once made by Sir Rivers Thompson.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
March 1st, 1886.

107. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 1st March, says that if Sir Rivers Thompson passes the Chowkidari Bill in its present shape, people will say that the country is being governed in a despotic manner.

The Chowkidari Bill.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

NAVAVIBHAKA,
March 1st, 1886.

108. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 1st March, says that it has often pointed out that the Native Princes are becoming more and more displeased with the English Government owing to the conduct of its Political Officers. The Princes are mere puppets in the hands of the Political Agents. If they protest against any act of the Political Agent, they suffer much and are, in some cases, deposed. It has become absolutely necessary for Government to change its policy towards the Native Princes. In the matter of the ill-treatment of the husband of the Begum of Bhopal, Government supported the officers. Can it any longer expect that the Begum will be eager to help it at the sacrifice of her life and money? The *Indian Echo* has published an account of some oppressive acts on the part of the Political Agent Colonel Talbot. He has compelled the Maharajah of Bikanir to banish Bansilal Ramratan, who is a friend of the Maharajah, and whom Government made a Roy Bahadur in recognition of his services. Colonel Talbot has also compelled the Maharajah to hang a Brahmin mendicant whom the Maharajah refused to hang in accordance with the Hindu religion and Hindu practice. The Maharajah also cannot obtain lemons from his own garden without Colonel Talbot's permission. As Government has not censured Colonel Talbot for these acts, the writer thinks that it is not aware of these things.

Native Princes and Political Officers.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 1st, 1886.

109. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 1st March, says that while the unemployed poor in England for want of food resort to violent measures, just as many have recently done in London, the Indian poor meekly bear their hard lot. When, however, their sufferings become unendurable, some of them commit thefts, and the rulers send them to jail, where many of them die. Why is not a similar treatment extended to the English poor who, when starvation stares them in the face, commit acts of

Distress among the unemployed poor in London.

violence? The answer perhaps is that the rulers are Englishmen, and that the natives are a conquered people. If the native poor could act like the English poor in similar circumstances, the authorities would probably treat them with some consideration. The case of the Irish is somewhat analogous to that of Indians, but England treats the Irish in a manner quite different from that in which it treats the people of India.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

110. The *Dainik*, of the 4th March, hears that Lady Dufferin is defraying all the expenses for the education of the American missionaries in India. A rumour was afloat some time ago that Lady Dufferin had undertaken the training of female doctors at the instance of the ladies of the Zenana Mission. But it was not confirmed at the time. The writer suspects that there is some connection of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund with the missionaries. He will be glad if Her Ladyship contradicts the rumour.

Missionaries and the Countess of Dufferin's Fund.

DAINIK,
March 4th, 1886.

URIYA PAPERS.

111. After giving the substance of the Village Watchman's Bill, now before the Bengal Legislative Council, the *Samvād Bāhikā* goes on to make the following remarks :—

The Village Watchman's Bill.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
Feb. 18th, 1886.

"In our opinion the Bill is a very important one. The Legislative Council need not be in haste to pass the measure. The income-tax will reach the upper ten, but the chowkidari rate will reach almost all classes of people. It will therefore require good judgment on the part of those who have been entrusted with the duty of revising the provisions of the Bill."

The Village Watchman's Bill.

112. The *Sebaka* writes the following on the same subject :—

SEBAKA,
Feb. 20th, 1886.

"To remedy the evils, the Bill proposes to organise punchayets on a better system, to exact better and more regular work from them, to pay the chowkidars their salaries punctually every month, to appoint a tehsildar to collect the chowkidari rate from each circle of villages, to appoint a circle sirdar to supervise the work of village watchmen, and to invest the Magistrate of a district with the power of appointing village watchmen and tehsildars in his jurisdiction.

We are of opinion that the Bill, when passed into law, will bring about an organised village constabulary, and thereby bring to light many crimes which are now hushed up by the unmindful chowkidars who do not obtain their salaries regularly. The appointment of a tehsildar to collect chowkidari rate from the villages is very desirable, but we do not see the necessity of circle sirdars, whose appointment will lead to unnecessary expenditure. It is just that the chowkidari lands should be restored to the zemindars, but the assessment on them should be fixed at one-fourth of the present annual letting value of such land. We hope the Select Committee will take our suggestions into their kind consideration. Considering the important position which the chowkidar will occupy under the new Act, it is desirable that men of better castes than Pans and Kundras should be appointed to those situations. We would like to see the old paiks and khundaits of Orissa restored to their old

position of guardians of peace. The more respectable the classes from which the chowkidars will be recruited, the better will they perform their duties."

UTKAL DIPIKA,
Feb. 20th, 1886.

113. Referring to the creation of six scholarships with the object of enabling the select candidates of the Indian

The State scholarships.

Universities to prosecute their studies in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the *Utkal Dipiká* goes on to observe that these concessions will be of very little use so long as the limit of age in the Civil Service Examination is not so raised as to admit of a large number of Indian students into that service.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 6th March 1886.